

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2153 without my signature.

While distance learning programs have demonstrated their ability to deliver instruction to students unable to attend traditional classroom-based programs, ongoing issues of fiscal and programmatic accountability argue for a cautious, case-by-case review, rather than the blanket exemption that this bill would provide.

The appropriate venue for requesting an increase in the five percent cap is the State Board of Education, which has the authority to raise the cap to whatever level it deems appropriate. Moreover, as the state's education policymaking body, it has the expertise to evaluate each school district's individual request on its merits.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger